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Voluntary Public

Date: 4/21/2011

GAIN Report Number: JA1024

Japan

Post: Tokyo

March 17 Update - Japan Food and Agriculture

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

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Report Highlights:

Immediately following the **Great East Japan Earthquake** on March 11, 2011, FAS/Japan prepared a series of reports on Japan's rapidly evolving food and agricultural situation. These reports were designed to disseminate vast amounts of information to a broad audience of policy makers and private sector actors as quickly as possible. Topics covered in these reports include; food safety, soil toxicity, port damages, disaster assistance, feed supply infrastructure, commodity prices, retail trends, consumer psychology, and many other food and agricultural topics. As the post-quake series of reports were prepared quickly, often from Japanese translations, some liberties may have been taken with grammar and writing style.

TODAY's OVERVIEW

The State Department issued an authorized departure for the dependents of the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, the Consulate General/Nagoya, and the Foreign Service Institute/Yokohama.

Fuel availability, electrical power, and lack of distribution remain as the critical issues. In addition, extremely cold weather and heavy snow has begun to fall on Miyagi prefecture. Food shelves in suburban Tokyo remain sparse, however, distributors have begun to double or even triple deliveries.

Heavy repatriation of foreign investment is expected to strengthen the yen. The yen hit a record high today at 78.9 yen/dollar and some analysts are predicting 75. In the short run, this will help Japan buy foreign supplies but if not eased could easily delay any economic recovery in the longer run.

Note: FAS/Tokyo has added a new section to the report listing charities and organizations active in the relief efforts called donations.

BACKGROUND

A massive 9.0 magnitude earthquake and subsequent Tsunami hit Japan's north east pacific coastal region on March 11, 2011. The catastrophe devastated cities, towns, and villages of the prefectures located along the coast line. The most affected prefectures are Iwate, Miyagi, Fukushima, and Ibaragi. In addition, more than 350 aftershocks have hit the affected area, including Tokyo.



PORTS

Tokyo and all ports south of Japan's capital were operating normally after briefly shutting down operations following Friday's disaster, while the rest of the country's ports are being assessed for damage. The ports of Shiogama, Tomakomai, Kamaishi, Ishinomaki and Kashima were hit the hardest

with the Tsunami, and reportedly can't receive any Panamax ships. The Kashima port also has damage to its Silo. The port of Hachinohe and Kushiro (in Hokkaido) were less-damaged.

Japan's container shipping industry was seen as the most strongly affected by the disaster. Japan's ninth-largest container port, Kashima, and the smaller port of Hitachinaka sustained milder damage and both could be back in operation within weeks. The tsunami also destroyed and grounded dozens of vessels, including three of Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha's panama ships and another chartered by Mitsui O.S.K Lines.

Major Feed Grain Ports in Japan and the Quake/Tsunami Impact (no change from 3/16)

Port	Damage	Compound Feed Production (in million metric tons)
Kushiro, Hokkaido	None	1.12
Tomakomai, Hokkaido	None	1.52
Hachinohe, Aomori	Severely damaged	1.82
Kamaishi, Iwate	Severely damaged, but reopened to emergency shipments	0.24
Ishinomaki, Miyagi	Severely damaged	1.14
Sendai, Miyagi	Severely damaged	0.46
Kashima, Ibaraki	Unloading facility partially damaged but compound feed production facility in tact	3.97
Nagoya, Aichi	None	1.34
Toyohashi, Aichi	None	0.72
Mizushima, Okayama	None	1.43
Yashiro, Kumamoto	None	0.71
Kagoshima, Kagoshima	None	1.39
Shibushi, Kagoshima	None	2.64
Other ports and inland production facilities	None	6.30

Total Compound Feed Production 24.80 million MT

The four severely damaged ports in the Tohoku area will not be operational for an extended period of time. The compound feed production capacity of these ports totals about 3.66 million MT, or 15% of Japan's total production of compound feed.

The port of Kashima is partially damaged, and it is expected to take about three months before it can receive vessels for unloading. However, the feed mills at the port are operational.

The plan is to increase production at unaffected mills and transport to affected areas (by boat from Hokkaido and Kyushu, and by truck from Western Honshu).

EMERGENCY FOOD AND DISTRIBUTION PLAN

Food aid shipments into affected areas continue. Pictured below is an HH-60H Sea Hawk assigned to the Black Knights of Anti- Submarine Squadron (HS) 4 preparing to land on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) to reload emergency supplies, food, and water. Ronald Reagan Sea Hawk helicopters are transporting supplies, providing disaster relief and humanitarian assistance to Japan as directed in support of Operation Tomodachi (friendship).



According to a Shokuhin Sangyo Shimbun report, Otsuka Holdings donated 197000 bottles of Chrystal Geyser for the quake and tsunami affected areas.

Updated Plan Chart from MAFF:

Emergency Food and Beverage Distribution Plan
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

1. Requested (as of 7:00 am, March 16)

Food: 3.06 million portions
Water: 1.87 million bottles
Infant formula: 7 metric tons

1. Already delivered or being delivered

Prefecture	Item	Quantity	Content
Aomori	Food	5,000 portions	rice porridge
Iwate	Food	278,000 portions	cup-noodles, bread, pre-cooked/package d rice, canned food
	Water	50,000 bottles	
Miyagi	Food	1,032,000 portions	bread, onigiri, cup-noodles, pre-cooked/package d rice
	Water *Infant formula	690,000 bottles 7 metric tons	
Yamagata	Food	2,000 portions	rice porridge
Fukushima	Food	331,000 portions	bread, onigiri, cup-noodles
	Water	101,000 bottles	
Tohoku, other	Food	120,000 portions	cup-noodles
TOTAL	Food Water *Infant formula	1,768,000 portions 841,000 bottles 7 metric tons	

1. Being prepared

Prefecture	Item	Quantity	Content
Iwate	Food	250,000 portions	bread, cup-noodles, pre-cooked/package d rice, canned food
	Water	50,000 bottles	
Miyagi	Food	391,000 portions	bread, onigiri, cup-noodles, cooked/package d rice
	Water	254,000 bottles	
Fukushima	Food	452,000 portions	bread, onigiri, cup-noodles, cooked/package d rice
	Water	633,000 bottles	
Ibaraki	Food	115,000 portions	bread, cup-noodles
	Water	96,000 bottles	
Tohoku, other	*Food	90,000 portions	cup-noodles
TOTAL	Food Water	1,298,000 portions 1,033,000 bottles	

1. Other

Thirty-seven private companies have offered 2.43 million portions of food , 300,000 bottles of water along with 8 kitchen-equipped vans.

Andersen Bakery (located in Hiroshima) has offered to donate 30,000 units of bakery products per day. On March 14, 56,000 units have been shipped to the city of Ishinomaki, Miyagi.

There are more companies independently volunteering outside of the government route.

Obtainable food/quantity (currently being requested):

Onigiri and bento: 880,000 portions/day, supplied by 27 companies

Water: 5.58 million liters/day, supplied by 17 companies

Bread: 591,000 portions, supplied by 10 companies

Instant noodles: 1.18 million portions, supplied by 5 companies

Infant formula : 168 metric tons, supplied by 3 companies

Rice crackers: 321,000 packs, supplied by 18 companies

Canned/retort-packaged food: 790,000 units, supplied by 8 companies

Biscuits: 51,000 packs

Rice cakes: 2.62 million portions

Various pre-cooked food: 6,000 portions

Milled rice: 2,140-2,270 metric tons (14-15 million portions), supplied by 13 companies

GRAINS AND OILSEEDS

Rice- Kitoku-Shinryo's rice facility in Sendai, Japan, was demolished by the disasters and three of the company's employees are missing. The facility handled milling, packaging and storage. The rice importer and wholesaler has imported U.S.-grown rice for many years through the simultaneous-buy-sell import system used in USA Rice's promotions in Japan.

Feed millers around the country shared the following information:

Nihon Haigo Shiryo: Their group of companies had damage by the earthquake, but nobody was killed. They are still checking their damages.

Group companies are: Tohoku Shiryo in Hachinohe, Aomori Pref; Sendai Shiryo, Sendai, Miyagi Pref., Shiogama Plant, Shiogama, Miyagi Pref., Kashima Shiryo, Kamisu, Ibaraki Pref., Heisei Shiryo, Kamisu, Ibaraki Pref., Kurikoma Poultry, Kurihara, Miyagi Pref.

Itochu Shiryo: Hachinohe and Ishinomaki plants were damaged by Tsunami, and they cannot manufacture or ship feeds right now.

Chubu Shiryo: Hachinohe and Kahima Plants were damaged by the earthquake. Kashima Plant has resumed manufacturing and shipping, although it is not fully recovered yet.

Nihon Nosan Kogyo: Their feed manufacturing facilities such as Sendai Shiryo, Kamaishi Shiryo and Shiogama Factory were damaged by the earthquake. They cannot manufacture and ship formula feeds right now, and don't know when they can recover.

(1) Kashima Plants: They receive electric power today and are checking production lines. Higashi-Kumiai Feed Kashima Plant has produced 2,000 tons daily and they must supply to the customers from

alternate plants such as Akagi Plant (Gunma) and Chita Plant (Aichi). However, cleaning and check systems will be done and production will start around March 22.

Hachinohe and other Tohoku Plants: Most of plants were flooded by Tsunami and the Silo cracked from the shaking. Recovery needs at least one month.

Livestock Producers and Processing Plants: Broiler producers with breeder flock may skip production for couple months due to feed shortage and facility damage. Pig producers are seriously hurt with no feed, and power and fuel for warming baby pigs. They need fuel now and electricity and feed.

Packers: Starzen Misawa Plant; Until fuel runs out, they will process pigs. Nippon Ham Momoishi Packer; Damaged by Tsunami and completely destroyed.

Fukushima: Due to complete annihilation, nobody can go around there and in any case they are scared to go. Many sales office in Fukushima City and Koriyama City temporary move other areas.

7 Mills:

CRUSHERS: Nisshin Oillio, J Oil Mills, Showa Sangyo, and Fuji Oil had plants damaged.

FEED: Kyodo Shiryō Ishinomaki Plant was damaged by tsunami and has stopped operations, and their Kashima plant was partially damaged, and is checking the damages. There are some employees missing.

Input from ASA on Soy Products for human consumption:

The Japan Pork Producers Association (JPPA) has requested permission to allow feed trucks to use the highways. They have also asked MAFF to allow marine transportation through the Sea of Japan rather than Pacific side. The industry is very concerned about delivering necessary/urgent supplies to affected areas.

MAFF is working with soy associations to provide assistance to companies in the Miyagi, Fukushima and Mito areas; especially, miso, soy sauce and tofu companies. Telecommunication problems have made this work difficult.

MAFF has ordered the release of grain stocks and is negotiating with Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLITT) to designate transport vehicles for feed and raw material, and is requesting (MLITT) to enable Kashima Port to ship and receive cargos.

Damage Summary

TOFU: Major tofu have been partially damaged and are not operating normally.

MISO: There are more than 227 miso companies in the Tohoku region, Fukushima and Miyagi prefectures, but communication problems have prevented a full assessment.

SOY SAUCE: There are many soy sauce companies in Tohoku area that cannot be reached.

NATTO: Many natto companies located in the northern region were damaged, especially in Miyagi. Companies in Akita, Aomori and Iwate have not been damaged. The top natto company, Takano Foods

(35% share) cannot operate their plants.

SOY PROTEIN: Most of the companies were not affected. The Nisshin Oillio Isogo plant is partially damaged and Nisshin's soy protein customers (fish-cake processors) many of which are located in the coastal area have been severely damaged.

FROZEN TOFU: No damage.

SOYMILK: No damage as most of companies are located in Tokyo or West Japan.

SEAFOOD

Fishery production in Northern Japan in 2009 (Unit:1000 Metric Ton)

Prefecture	Total	Fish catch	Sea culture	%
All Japan	53,480	41,511	11,969	100
Hokkaido	14,911	13,312	1,599	27.9%
Aomori	2,592	1,525	1,067	4.8%
Iwate	1,935	1,335	600	3.6%
Miyagi	3,669	2,293	1,376	6.9%
Akita	115	114	1	0.2%
Yamagata	70	70	0	0.1%
Fukushima	835	835	0	1.6%
Ibaraki	1,482	1,482	0	2.8%
Chiba	2,083	1,921	162	3.9%

Source: MAFF

The table above shows the volume of fishery production in northern Japan. The highlighted portions indicate data for the four severely damaged prefectures. Total volume for these prefectures amounts to 7,921 (1000 metric ton: MMT), which was 14.8% of Japan's total fishery production in 2009. MAFF does not have production data on a value basis. Production value for the four prefectures may be quite high relative to other regions because these four prefectures produce high value fish such as tuna, salmon, bonito, shark (fin), sanma, mackerel, seaweed and oysters. A Fishery Economics (Sui-Kei) paper dated March 16 reported that Chairman Miyakoshi of the LDP agricultural and forestry division said the coast line of Sanriku and northern Tohoku supply 40% of Japanese fishery production. He also said that a loss of fishing area and industry in Sanriku could lead to collapse of the Japanese fishing industry.

Articles from the Minatoj-Tsukiji website:

-- Reportedly, there are adequate supplies of fresh fishery products available from western Japan but frozen and processed shipments are not available due to the impact on processing plants in the earthquake stricken regions, which has reduced the volume of frozen and processed fish available at Tsukiji market by 20% to 1500 tons.

- Due to the damage of the quake, recent orders for products such as wakame, scallops, and sardines from the affected areas cannot be filled.
- The National Federation of Medium Trawlers has reported that 66 out of 96 trawlers registered in Aomori had escaped damage.
- The 6 wholesale markets in Tohoku while not significantly damaged are having trouble with distributing product due to the lack of fuel and damaged infrastructures.
- The National Association of Far Sea and Offshore Squid Fisheries reports that 33 out of 51 vessels registered in Aomori are missing.
- The earthquake and subsequent tsunami have had a significant effect on the aquaculture industries for scallop, oysters, and sea urchin in Hokkaido. Scallop farming operations in Funka Bay were impacted so much that they will be unable to provide scallops next year. Oyster farms were also hurt and may not be able to recover least five more years.

Chiba Prefecture: Seaweed farming facilities were destroyed by the tsunami. Because of the fire at an oil refinery in Ichihara City, fishermen are short of fuel for boats.

Hokkaido: Aquaculture in Eastern and Southern Hokkaido large damage. Oyster farming in Akkeshi, Hokkaido lost almost all baby oysters by the tsunami. Akkeshi produces 600 MT oysters per year, and usually they purchase baby oyster from Miyagi Prefecture which had serious damages by the earthquake. They are going to check whether they can raise Hiroshima oyster in Hokkaido. Scallop farming in Yakumocho in Hokkaido was also damaged by the tsunami. Their sales are about 2 billion Yen per year, recovery by next year may be difficult.

WOOD PRODUCTS

Importers and wholesalers of hardwood lumbers and veneers in Tokyo reportedly did not receive damage to warehouses. However, they are unable to transport product to the Tohoku region due to restrictions on the use of highways by non-emergency vehicles and a shortage of fuel supplies. The forest product industry in Hokkaido, the region producing the largest portion of forest products in Japan, reportedly was not damaged by the earthquake and tsunami.

The wood industry expects that initially there will be a demand for imports of plywood and softwood lumber for use in recovery efforts followed by an increase in demand for hardwood used in furniture and interiors. Trading houses and wholesalers are concerned there will be a shortage of plywood supplies for recovery efforts.

MEAT, DAIRY AND LIVESTOCK

Milk shipments from Hokkaido have stopped. The ships to deliver milk from Kushiro Port to main island are not operating from March 12 on. Dairy farmers may have to dump milk if shipments do not resume soon.

In addition to the severe damage to processing plants, cold storage, and other facilities in the Tohoku region, the disruption of electricity and fuel supplies presents the most immediate challenge; preventing

distribution of these products.

To add insult to injury - Avian influenza was found in a poultry farm in Chiba on March 13, and 30,000 birds were culled.

Reports from Cooperators:

From ASA:

Ibaraki, a meat producing prefecture, has seen a decrease in livestock delivered to slaughter of 60-70% of the ordinary rate.

Iwate, a large poultry producing prefecture, also suffered extensive damage by the earthquake. The Japan Chicken Association says, most of the chicken supplies in Kanto region come from Tohoku, and the shipments received will be affected by Iwate's damages.

From USGC:

MAFF issued a letter to relevant local agriculture offices and industry associations with technical instructions for livestock animals and horticulture under transportation and power shortages.

The Federation of Livestock Producers Association and Prefectural Livestock Production Promotion Association have opened an account to receive donations for livestock producers affected by the earthquake.

Toxicity

Regarding radiation testing, MHLW Import Food Safety DG Michino's statement is as follows:

1. As of now, the 20 kilometer evacuation zone is set for Fukushima #1 Nuclear Power Plant and a 10 kilometer zone for Fukushima #2 Nuclear Power Plant. Fukushima Prefecture's Agricultural Department stated publicly on March 14 that "because the evacuation is in effect due to the trouble at Tokyo Electric Power Company's Fukushima #1 and #2 plants, the evacuated area is not in the situation to be able to ship out any agricultural products (produced in that area)."
2. MHLW will consider appropriate measures based on the Food Sanitation Law.

Based on Food Sanitation Law, MHLW released notification to prefectural governments about the handling of radioactive contaminated food. MHLW will release an official translation later today. In short, the notification regulates food over specific radioactive level should not be consumed, therefore must not be distributed. Specific levels (Bq/kg) of contamination for restriction are as below. During press release on March 17, MHLW commented that the issue needs to be formally assessed by Food Safety Commission when time permits.

1. Radioactive Iodine (representative nuclide is Iodine-31)

Water to drink; 300 (Bq/kg)

Milk and dairy products; 300

Milk and dairy products with over 100 Bq/kg must not be used for direct consumption by infants and formula)

Vegetables (excluding root vegetables, potatoes); 2000

1. Radioactive cesium

Water to drink; 200

Milk and dairy products; 200

Vegetables; 500

Grains; 500
Meat, egg, fish and others; 500

1. Uranium
Food for infants; 20
Water to drink; 20
Milk and dairy products; 20
Vegetables; 100
Grains; 100
Meat, egg, fish and others; 100

1. Plutonium and alpha nuclides of transuranium (total of Pu-238, Pu-239, Pu-240, Pu-242, Am-241, Cm-242, Cm-243, Cm-244)
Food for infants; 1
Water to drink; 1
Milk and dairy products; 1
Vegetables; 10
Grains; 10
Meat, egg, fish and others; 10

HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Tokyo Metro Wholesale Market update:

During the regular winter season, fresh produce (fresh vegetables and fruit) products from the Tohoku region is usually very limited and hence usually supplied by Tokyo. Wholesale markets in the Metro Tokyo area report to have sufficient supplies of local and imported fresh produce. However, the big concern is the transport of produce to the Tohoku region given current gasoline shortages and poor access. While there is more than enough product there are no means of transportation to deliver products to the affected region. As a result, the fresh produce scheduled for delivery to the Tohoku region has piled up in the Tokyo Metro Area. Nonetheless, wholesale prices on fresh produce remain fairly stable.

The second biggest concern is the negative impact of the rotating blackouts on demand for fresh produce. Scheduled blackouts (usually 2 to 3 hours every day) are currently affecting the Kanto region, including the Metro Tokyo area, and the Tohoku region. These blackouts have caused many Metro area restaurants to close earlier in the evening. In addition, many local fresh produce retailers and local supermarkets unable to use cold storage have decided to close their stores until electricity supply returns to normal.

Fresh Produce Production Concerns:

A rising concern among consumers and producers regarding production of horticultural products in the region is the possible radiation effects caused by nuclear power plant explosion in the Fukushima

prefecture. While it is too soon to determine the possible effects on agriculture fields, the Japanese fresh produce industry is beginning to worry as exaggerated rumors questioning the safety of the region's fresh produce are starting to spread. This may result in long-term problems as Japanese consumers are particularly sensitive to food safety issues.

RETAIL AND DISTRIBUTION

A summary of the information from New Supermarket Association of Japan is as follows:

Most of the supermarkets in Eastern Japan including the quake/tsunami affected prefectures except the severely affected areas were temporarily closed after the quake on the 11th but open short hours on the 12th and many opened even during the blackouts, and on the 15th and 16th most of them were operating but with still limited hours due to the blackouts and limited products to sell. Out of 170 outlets of York Benimaru, one of the largest retail chains in Tohoku area, 77 outlets are closed mainly in Fukushima Prefecture.

GOJ Food & Beverage Needs

The Japanese government is quietly controlling the shipping of essentials from major domestic manufacturers, including bottled water, cup-noodles, bread, batteries and butane gas cartridges as the GOJ has prioritized those items for victim relief. As such, these products are difficult to obtain from national retailers.

Packaging an Issue

Food package manufacturers in Tohoku suffered significant damage. PET bottles and plastic bags for food products is getting scarce. National and regional retailers are facing with this problem for the production of their private brand products.

Warehousing

Port facilities in Tokyo bay, including Yokohama, had no damage but warehouses in Tokyo are filling as shipments that were destined for ports in Tohoku region are now arriving in Tokyo and west. Cold storage is limited and frozen food warehouses may not be able to receive frozen products soon if this situation runs another 2 to 3 weeks.

One interesting note is that shipping line companies remain anxious regarding ship Captain's decisions of whether to dock in Tokyo. Captains may decide to skip Tokyo if it is felt there is any danger related to radioactivity. Those vessels may skip Tokyo and proceed to western Japanese ports or continue to other countries.

MEDIA

ASAHI SHIMBUN, one of four major newspapers in Japan reported today that the Government of Japan decided on March 16 to conduct random tests on Japanese agricultural products to determine potential radioactive contamination following the nuclear accidents in Fukushima. According to the paper, the measure is intended to ensure the safety of Japanese farm products and minimize the potential adverse effects on Japanese food exports.

In a separate article, ASAHI reported that Asian nations such as China, South Korea, and Thailand have

begun to inspect food imports from Japan more strictly out of concern over possible radiation contamination in Japanese products. The paper wrote that it may become difficult to sell Japanese food, which has enjoyed a reputation for good flavor and high quality, in international markets.

DONATIONS

The following is a list of organizations that are coordinating relief efforts for the stricken area. Please note that the U.S. Embassy is not a point of contact for relief efforts. U.S. Military aid is being coordinated directly by the U.S. military at the request of the Japanese Self Defense Forces.

U.S. Cooperators, Trade Organizations, and Companies would be well served to work with their Japanese contacts to coordinate any aid or donations. For instance, the local Food Business News (Shokuhin Sangyo Shimbun) reported today that Otsuka Holdings donated 197,000 bottles of Chrystal Geyser for the quake and tsunami affected areas. This is an excellent case of a U.S. company donating U.S. product through its Japanese partner. Likewise, The U.S. Meat Export Federation is coordinating and pooling contributions from its members and will work through its Japanese partners to distribute food to stricken areas.

FAS Tokyo does not vouch for or endorse any organization on this list.

1. <http://www.cidi.org/commodity-available-registration?view=commodityavailable> - This site, run by USAID, allows companies to register and list offers of in-kind donations, which then will be matched to stated requests from the Government of Japan, if any.
2. www.interaction.org - This link lists a number of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that respond to crises globally and have operations on the ground in Japan.
3. www.usaid.gov - This is the main USAID website.
4. The Red Cross - <http://www.jrc.or.jp/english/index.html> - This is the Japanese (English Language) web site. But you may want to contact the American Red Cross for Options - <http://www.redcross.org/>
5. Airlines – United Airlines allows you to donate miles to the cause or donate miles to help aid workers travel to Japan - <http://www.ua.com>, American Airlines has a similar program - <http://www.aa.com/homePage.do>
6. If you are a Member of the Chamber of Commerce – email to helpjapan@accj.or.jp or e-mail to the U.S. site - BCLChelpdesk@uschamber.com
7. The Japan America Society – There are many Japan America Societies throughout the U.S. Here is a link for the Colorado Chapter - <http://www.jascolorado.org/index.php> - Please look up links for your local chapter.
8. GLOBALGIVING: Established a fund to disburse donations to organizations providing relief and emergency services to victims of the earthquake and tsunami. www.globalgiving.org
9. SAVE THE CHILDREN: Mobilizing to provide immediate humanitarian relief in the shape of emergency health care and provision of non-food items and shelter. www.savethechildren.org

10. SALVATION ARMY: The Salvation Army has been in Japan since 1895 and is currently providing emergency assistance to those in need. www.salvationarmyusa.org
11. AMERICARES: Emergency team is on full alert, mobilizing resources and dispatching an emergency response manager to the region. www.americares.org
12. CONVOY OF HOPE: Disaster Response team established connection with in-country partners who have been impacted by the damage and are identifying the needs and areas where Convoy of Hope may be of the greatest assistance. www.convoyofhope.org
13. INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS: Putting together relief teams, as well as supplies, and are in contact with partners in Japan and other affected countries to assess needs and coordinate our activities. www.internationalmedicalcorps.org
14. SHELTER BOX: The first team is mobilizing to head to Japan and begin the response effort. www.shelterbox.org